

Comments on the Draft Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Norovirus Gastroenteritis Outbreaks in Healthcare Settings

Recommendations for additional review:

- 1) **page 13: Personal Protective Equipment 3.C.2.b Clinical environment services staff, as well as visitors, should wear gloves and gowns when entering areas under isolation or cohorting.**

Please clarify the term ‘or cohorting’ in this context. Earlier in the guidelines it recommends the use of Standard Precautions, reserving Contact Precautions (gown and gloves) for an outbreak situation. Cohorting of patients can be implemented in some healthcare settings, even when there is not an outbreak occurring.

- 2) **page 14: Environmental Cleaning 3.C.12.d.3 Change privacy curtains when they are visibly soiled and upon patient discharge or transfer.**

Please clarify this recommendation for changing the curtains ‘when the patient is discharged or transferred’. Is this meant to be implemented in an outbreak situation or anytime a norovirus patient is present in the healthcare setting?

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
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